

CONGRESS OF MINERS

For Fifteen Years a World's Gathering Has Been Held.

THIS TIME MEET IN PARIS

Owing to Various Nationalities, All Reports and Speeches Have to be Translated.

(Copyrighted, 1904, by John Mitchell.)

PARIS, September 7.—For five days the representatives of the miners of the world were meeting in the Bourse de Travail at Paris under the auspices of the Miners' International Congress. For fifteen years this Congress has held annual sessions, at which questions of interest to the miners of the world have been taken up and discussed.

The meeting this year was the most important since the organization of the International Congress. For the first time in its history there were present at the Congress delegates from the United States, and thus the seventy-seven miners represented at the congress were from twenty-two different countries of the world, or, in other words, almost the entire coal mining population of the world, that is, 2,000,000 miners. There were representatives from all parts of Great Britain, from Germany, Austria, France, Belgium and the United States, which countries produce over nineteen-twentieths of the entire amount of coal mined.

It is always extremely difficult for men of different nationalities and speaking different languages to meet and discuss problems of common interest. The majority of the representatives understood English, but neither French or German, while those who spoke either French or German were ignorant of the other two languages. As a consequence, all the proceedings, including the speeches of the delegates, had to be translated and retranslated, so that it took thirty minutes for a ten minutes' speech to reach the understanding of all the delegates. However, the translators were extremely able and the delegates limited their speeches to the most important matters, with the result that the proceedings were very much more rapid and intelligible than might have been expected. At the same time, the delegates were very much more friendly and good-fellowship reigned throughout the Congress.

Since the beginning of these annual Congresses the conditions of European miners have been everywhere improved. Wages have risen, the hours of labor have been reduced, and the sanitary condition of the mines has been bettered. Another gain during this time has been the prohibition by practically all the countries represented of work by women in the mines. While many women in Europe, pick state and do other rough work on the outside of the mines, almost none work inside.

The proceedings of the Congress are conducted in a rapid, sensible and businesslike manner. Each day a president is elected, who serves for that day only, and for each nationality a separate president is also elected. The resolutions of the Congress are passed upon by members of their own nationality, and only in cases of dispute (which have not yet arisen) are questions of this sort submitted to the general assembly. This business, or international committee, which agrees upon the proceedings and acts as a sort of executive committee, consists of one member from each nationality, and the speeches of the delegates are also made by members of their own nationality, and not by representatives of the committee.

Much of the discussion during the present Congress bore upon the subjects of shorter working hours and the establishment of a minimum wage. The hours of labor have already been somewhat reduced in continental countries, and in England they are already shorter than in the United States. As in America, the miners of Europe are endeavoring to secure a universal eight-hour day for miners, and considerable progress has already been made in this direction.

The Congress was unanimous in its vote to obtain by such means as were best suited to the situation in the various countries, the speediest enactment of a minimum wage. The greatest possible difference exists between the wages of miners in various parts of Europe. In Great Britain the wages, until the last year or two, have been relatively high, comparing not unfavorably with the wages of American miners. In France and Belgium, however, wages are much lower, and in certain parts of Germany, notably in the Eastern or Silesian district, and throughout Aus-

tria, the rate of remuneration is so low that the workingman cannot live in decency, and in many cases cannot even maintain himself in physical vigor. Generally speaking, wages are higher where the men are best organized, and it is one of the objects of this Congress, therefore, to spread unionism into all parts of Europe, in order to maintain a fair rate of wages for coal mining throughout the world.

One of the most serious questions discussed by the Congress was that of mine sanitation. In many parts of Europe, in Great Britain, France, Belgium and in other countries, the miners suffer from a worm disease, called anthracosis. This worm, which is very small, is usually to be found in damp and badly ventilated mines, and it enters the red corpuscles of the blood and introduces a feeling of lassitude and an entire absence of energy, which prevents the men from doing effective work. There are mines in which as many as 100 per cent of the miners are affected by this disease, which not only reduces efficiency of the men, but weakens them to such an extent that they become highly susceptible to other diseases. The Congress took action looking toward the investigation of the worm disease and advocated that legal measures be taken to arrest and combat its propagation.

The chief importance of the Congress is its indirect, rather than its direct, consequences. The Congress has no power to compel the obedience or even the adherence of the unions in the several countries, but, almost all of the resolutions adopted by unanimous vote, and the Congress exerts a strong moral influence upon the miners' organizations and upon the community in general. The European congresses devote considerable space to the proceedings of the Congress, and much interest was manifested in the future plans of the organization. With each year the influence of the Congress becomes higher and higher. In the future, the Congress will be able to solve the problems which beset them are more or less similar in all countries. It is now proposed that the Congress eventually form a permanent organization, to be known as the International Congress of the Miners, and the establishment of a central office. If this is accomplished, the permanent secretary will secure information bearing on the conditions of miners in the various countries, and this information, printed in German, French and English, will be widely distributed, so that the miners in each country may be kept informed of the conditions in all parts of the world.

As in all Congresses, much of the most important work of the Miners' Congress is done outside of the meetings. The influence of the delegates from countries where the wages are high and the conditions of labor good, upon representatives from countries where organization is just beginning, has been extremely effective and beneficial. The meetings of the Congress are also a source of information of long-standing difficulties. During the present Congress, for instance, the American delegates were able to make important arrangements for the transfer of members of the Miners' Congress to another, these arrangements being made with Belgium, France, Germany and Austria. In the past some friction and misunderstanding had arisen owing to the fact that the German-American delegates presented themselves for admission to the American union and asked as a foreign unionist to be exempted from paying the initiation fee. It was frequently impossible to tell whether the applicant was or was not a member of a foreign union. This difficulty has now been entirely done away with by the adoption of a uniform system, and this reform is entirely due to the fact that the delegates of these countries and from America were enabled to meet at an International Congress.

The chief service conferred by the International Congress has been the moral aid which the delegates have given to the organization of miners into trade unions throughout Continental Europe. This organization is proceeding, with much rapidity, although the continental miners have still not nearly so well organized as their brethren in the United States and Great Britain. The difficulties of organization are even greater in such countries as Germany and Austria, than in the United States. In Germany, for instance, the union has to deal with the same problem of uniting different nationalities as is encountered in the United States. During recent years tens of thousands of people of differing nationalities, including Poles, Hungarians, Czechs, Italians, and others, have entered the German mines. These people, usually unable to speak German, have been unable to organize, and the result has been that the mines have been worked by a mass of unorganized labor. Every effort is made, however, to reach the people of foreign nationality and with much success. The German miners, for example, have been able to reach the people of foreign nationality and with much success. The German miners, for example, have been able to reach the people of foreign nationality and with much success.

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THALHIMER'S

STORE CLOSED MONDAY

THALHIMER'S

Our Carpet & Rug Section Wants You Tuesday

To take advantage of these phenomenal specials that we've prepared—Striking opportunities to secure newest Rugs at unusual prices—A chance that brings choicest Carpets and Rugs within everyone's reach. LISTEN:

Good Drugget Values

Just received a lot of Brussels Druggets, Oriental effects, 3x4, will sell them for..... **\$15.00**
3x4 Smyrna Drugget, all wool, small and large effects, worth \$25; our price for this week..... **\$20.00**
3x4 Extra Quality Smyrna Druggets, that sell for \$30; a few patterns to select from, for..... **\$25.00**
SPECIAL RUG SALE—Mouquette Rugs, 3x4, 100 different designs for..... **\$3.50**
Smyrna Rugs from 50c. and upwards.

Extraordinary Carpet Specials

Odds and ends in Tapestry Velvet Axminster Carpets, very neat patterns, ranging from 50c. to \$1.50, to be sold at..... **75c**
Our line of Velvet Carpets are select patterns, for..... **\$1.10**
Our best ten-wire Tapestry—very pretty patterns, per yard, laid..... **90c**
We invite your inspection.

Blankets at Summer Prices

10-4 Wool Blankets, in pink, blue and red borders, taped edges; real value \$4.00. Blanket, for, per pair..... **\$3.00**
10-4 extra value, our special make, cheap at \$4.50, for this week, per pair..... **\$3.68**
11-4 California Wool Blankets, silk taped, in blue, red and pink border; a real \$7.50 Blanket, per pair..... **\$6.00**
A double blanket in gray and white, for, per pair..... **75c**

The Genius of the Man Tailor Is Strikingly Apparent in our

Elegant but inexpensive is the thought which occurs to the observer of the well-selected lines of this department—comprising the latest ideas embodied in choice and desirable materials. No matter where you go, or what you may pay, more graceful, more original and finer tailored work cannot be found in any city. While price is a very important factor in the selection of garments, there are other elements deserving consideration: quality, fit, material, workmanship and style are pre-eminently important. In choosing from our assortment you have the assurance of absolute perfection in all these things. Our name imprinted upon a garment guarantees this. Comparison places our apparel high above the sorts usually sold at similar prices—that fact has been proven to thousands of Richmond women, and we can prove it to you Tuesday.

THE NEW TAILOR SUITS.—These have arrived, all the latest models, with short Norfolk and Belt Jackets, 36 to 50-inch long fitted Coats, vest front, or with long Tourist Coat, and all the late high kilt and plaided Skirts, at **\$12.50** to.....
New Norfolk Suits, black, blue or brown, fancy dark mixtures in Men's Suits, collarless and strapped, piped with taffeta bands, satin lined; Skirts strapped to match Jacket, at..... **\$15.00**
THE NEW SKIRTS.—Here in boundless variety, in black, blue or brown, Herringbone Cheviot or Tan Covert Cloth, made with 17 gores, nicely tailored, all lengths, 38 to 35 inches, at..... **\$7.50**
Finest Tailor-Made Skirts in best quality Venetian Cloth—black, blue or brown—several styles to select from, with cluster of cloth straps to match; also come in best quality of Tan Covert Cloth, at..... **\$10.00**

All the New Silks and Dress Goods in this Opening Show and Sale

Folk who come to our store Tuesday will promenade through rows of SILKS AND DRESS GOODS. Most of them are new here, for we carry very little over. A good many are from abroad—European knacks of novelty and beauty. Some splendid American cloths, too. We show them side by side—altogether the choicest collection we have ever shown. These interesting prices on strictly staple and seasonable Silks and Dress Fabrics for Tuesday's active selling.

BLACK SILKS

Three splendid specials in Yard Wide Black Taffetas at 98c., **\$1.10** and **\$1.25**—the **\$1.35**, **\$1.50** and **\$1.60** kinds.

Ten pieces 75c. 19-inch reliable Black Taffetas—these will be found a rare bargain, yard..... **58c**

24-inch Black Beau de Sole and Taffeta, yard..... **89c**

19-inch 36-inch Black Beau de Sole, yard..... **\$1.00**

24-inch Best Black Pongee, yard..... **75c**

24-inch All Silk Black Crepe de Chine, yard..... **59c**

PRETTY CRUSHED VELVETS

In all colors, also black at, per yard..... **\$1.00**

COLORED AND FANCY SILKS. 24-inch 31 Fancy Silks, black, brown and navy; the 31-kind—a snap—yard..... **59c**

SHIRT WAIST SUIT SILKS. In a bewildering array of the season's choicest designs and colors, navies, browns, reds, greens, etc., at these exceptionally popular prices: **\$1.00** 49c., 50c., 75c., 85c.

BLACK TAFFETA SPECIALS. We offer two Black Taffeta values this week at 25c. and 40c. a yard that are worth double the prices.

STIRRING VALUES IN BLACK GOODS.

At 25c. a yard, from 40c.—All Wool Cashmere, 27 inches wide.

At 37½c. from 50c.—Yard Wide All Wool Albatross.

At 50c. from 65c.—All Wool Granville, Vellings, Henriettas, Mohairs and Crepe Albatross.

At 75c. from \$1—44-inch All Wool Velle, Etamine and 50-inch English Sicilian.

At 75c. from \$1—50-inch Mohair Serge and Cheviot, 44-inch All Wool English Sicilian, 46-inch All Wool

Henriettas, French Voles and Etamines.

Among the new Fall Suitings we name the following attractive specials from our superb collection:

50c. 36 and 38-inch All Wool Manish Suitings, in all fall colorings.

At 75c. from \$1—A whole counterful of 46 and 50-inch All Wool Scotch and English Mixtures.

At \$1, \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$2—An unusually handsome showing of every new idea and color in up-to-date Suitings.

PLAIN DRESS GOODS SECTION.

Complete lines Imported Crepe de Paris, Eolennies, Voles, Chiffon Voles, Lansdownes, Crepellinas, Mohairs and Sicilians. These counter-crowding specials for Tuesday:

At 75c. from \$1.00—46-inch All Wool Fancy Voles, in navy, national, emerald, tan and champagne.

At \$1.25 from \$1.50—46-inch Imported Silk and Wool Nub Eolennies, choice colors.

See the new Rhodesias, Inamas, Fanciers, Broadcloths, Crepes, Fancies, at \$1, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2, \$2.50 and \$3 per yard.

Autumn Flannels and Waistings

It is impossible to give a detailed description of all the Flannel ideas carried by us, the stock is so vast—so varied. We keep abreast of the latest current fashions known, and have all the pretty novelties as soon as they appear.

Fancy Venetian Waistings, good 50c. value, for, per yard..... **39c**

New Venetian Flannels, 38 inches, in the latest color grounds, beautiful seeded effects, popular prices..... **50c**

Printed Cotton Velvets, 30 inches, Persian patterns, figures and stripes, suitable for waists, dressing gowns and bath robes—popular price..... **40c**

New Cotton Waistings, 27 inches, new color grounds or black, in striped effects—popular price..... **25c**

New Outing Flannels, 27 inches, in stripes, checks, plaids, light and dark colors; also a full line of plain colors—popular prices, 10c. and..... **12½c**

New Jaaper Suitings, 27 inches, in all the latest plain colors and black, fleeced black—popular price..... **12½c**

New Mercerized Satens, 27 and 32 inches, in the new color grounds, in broadens and pin dots—popular price..... **12½c**

New Black Satens, 32 and 36 inches, first black, fine qualities—popular prices, 20c. and..... **25c**

New Cheviots, 30 inches, choice patterns for shirts and pajamas—popular prices, 10c. and..... **12½c**

New Fall Percals, in pretty light and dark patterns, good quality, for, per yard..... **10c**

JEFFERSON AND MONTICELLO.

By BENJAMIN BLAKE MINOR, L. L. D.

In consequence of the unprecedented Louisiana Purchase Exposition, now in successful realization at St. Louis, our whole country is intensely interested in whatever relates to the history of the region around Charlottesville. Indeed, she who had the entire to Monticello and accepted my proposal that we visit it in the public square of Charlottesville, and his name to the young lady's home to tell her to get ready. Then going to the square, indignation and disappointment ran high at finding there only a tall, gaunt, short-lived, bony, and ungainly man, and a horse and saddle and bridle. I looked at them and at my gloves and other outfit and wiped the reins with my handkerchief. There was no other occupant of the rack and "time was wasted" in the search for the man who was to accompany me on the journey.

With a brief apologetic explanation to her and a blessing upon the liveryman, we set out upon our mountain ascent and had a delightful time for she was a most agreeable companion and the unprepossessing animal that was bearing me proved to be an excellent and easy traveler. He had a fine racking gait.

The Misses Levy received us very courteously and cordially; entertained us with intelligent conversation; treated us to cake, wine and fruit, and told us and showed us many things which had interested the former owner and creator of that historic place. After a most agreeable and reasonable visit we were taking our leave, our hostess accompanying us to the front door. There I saw to my amazement, a very tall, slim man in his shirt sleeves, with broad-brimmed straw hat and plainly pantalooned and shod, unloose my horse, mount him and ride him away.

The Piedmont scenery from Monticello is extensive and exceedingly beautiful, and is bounded on the west by the Blue Ridge. The sky and cloud views are often grand and sublime. Pelion upon Orestis' Olympus on both, and all gorgeously illuminated. But there is no water scenery except some glimpses of the small Rivanna river, which meanders near the base of the mountain. It comes from above the settlement at Milton, courses along near Charlottesville and Monticello and empties into the James at the town of Scottsville. It has a connection with this narrative, and inconsiderable as it is, has been the subject of repeated State legislation.

Indeed, the great men of Virginia were at one time all agog for intercommunication by water. It is well known what a great canal man General Washington was. He was elected, at the same time, president of two companies—one for the improvement of the James above tide-water and the other for that of the Potomac. Mr. Jefferson and his good friend and able coadjutor in the establishment of the University of Virginia, Mr. Joseph C. Cabell, were ardent advocates of intercommunication by water. Mr. Cabell's dear pet was the James river

and Kanawha canal. He got it, with the expensive aid of the State, through the Blue Ridge and had an expectation of carrying it over the Alleghany mountains. I have admired a beautiful drawing by one of his engineers of the intended "Summit Level" of his canal on the top of the Alleghany. The canal did not get as far west as Covington in Alleghany county. But the era of railroads came. They have tunneled and easily transversed the Blue Ridge and Alleghany and even the Rockies. What would Spotswood and his "Knights of the Golden Horseshoe" think of this? Mr. Cabell did not live to see it; but a railroad now runs from Richmond along the bed and banks of the grand James river and Kanawha canal, which is no longer used for transportation; but only in some places for water-power.

RIVANNA NAVIGATION AND THE CHADDOCKS.

In the days of transportation by water the little Rivanna had its share and bore its part. The navigation on it was by means of boats, barges, propelled by oars and long poles shoved with iron spikes. Those who engaged in it became highly and strong and had work to do, especially during their voyages, though they could stop and rest whenever they pleased. Some had small farms which they helped to cultivate, and some may have had an interest in the stores which they supplied with merchandise. They had a chance, with the wagons over bad roads, at whatever freight there was to do and to, between Milton, Charlottesville and Scottsville, and the freight was doubtless increased when Mr. Cabell's canal reached the last named place.

When I was a student of the University there was a band of about half a dozen brothers named Chadocks, who were engaged in transportation on the Rivanna. Every one of them was several inches above six feet in stature, slim, but muscular. It was commonly asserted, jokingly, that the good Lord had raised them up specially for their chosen occupation, for they could stand on the bottom of the river anywhere and relieve their craft in case of accident. Some of the elders of the brothers were known to Mr. Jefferson and had transactions with him. More probably their ancestors both boated and voted for him.

WHO TOOK THE HORSE.

Now, it was one of these boat-pole Chadocks named Chadock, who bore on the Rivanna and ridden him off so unceremoniously. I ran after him, loudly screaming, but he gained upon me. Still I followed and bawled out for him to stop. At last he did stop, and I got near enough I cried: "What in the world are you doing with my horse?" His reply was: "What in the world are you doing with my horse?" "You're indeed!" I cried. "I hired him from a livery stable in Charlottesville." "You?" he said; "but you got the wrong one. When I went to the rack for mine he was gone, but there was another there better looking and better fixed up. As I knew nothing of that one, I set about looking for mine and learned that some one had ridden him towards Monticello. I came up here, found him and have taken him."

"Yes, sir, and without any notice to me." Was that fair? You see how my mistake occurred. That other horse was for me; but I had never seen him, and he was not there when I took yours, as he ought to have been. If you had some of the house and give me any notice you

would have learned all this, and I believe you would have acted differently. Besides, I am escorting a young lady, and if you take your horse I shall have to walk by her side to her home. If you will allow me to ride about with the horse, I will make you any reasonable compensation." To this he agreed; but I do think that my earnestness, the innocence of my mistake, the awkwardness of the predicament in which he found himself, and the charge of unfairness in not giving me any opportunity for explanation moved the good-hearted fellow more than the money, for I was astonished at the smallness of the amount which he named. Then I rode back to the mansion, and after a hearty laugh with the three ladies, we took our departure. The young lady was landed safe at home, and Chadock found his reluctantly named mount, and the place whence he had been taken. It was a delightful afternoon excursion and the more enjoyable from the little misadventure which attended it. That got out among the students and townsmen, and it was some time before I heard the last of it.

Miss L. C. married one of my friends and colleagues, and is still living—a handsome and estimable woman.

The next session of the University my father paid me a visit, and I took him to Monticello. We were courteously received and hospitably entertained by the President of the University, and the most kindly sisters. This trip, however, was a private one, and that did not have to be tied to any of the members of the PLEASING SEQUENCE.

As above stated, Monticello became inseparably associated with the family of the President of the University. There was, years afterwards, an unexpected revival of this association in a distant State. One of that Professor's nephews was married in business in Mayville, Ky. of some of his classes, but George W. Jr., scraped on a violin, and I tooted on a flute under Mr. Bigelow, the instructor in Music, and this threw us into the acquaintance with the proprietor. Inquiry proved this to be the fact, and there was a cordial reunion. He had a family and invited me to his home. This discovery enhanced the pleasure of a protracted sojourn in Denver. Of course, former days were recalled, and each gave an account of what he had done during the long separation. He had been once engaged in business in Mayville, Ky. called forth an adventure at that very place. There the steamer was burned, on which I was joyously traveling for a western bride. The flames spread so rapidly that we were so near the edge of agony that many of the passengers, including several ladies, lost their baggage; some their money also, which was in their trunks. I might have lost my money trunk, with all the rigging for my approaching wedding, but for the kindly proffered assistance of a strong German, whom I had allowed to put his overcoat and saddle-bags in my state room. Several years ago, in Mayville, Ky. had refused to help me! When the tall smoke-stack was deprived by the fire of its support, it fell over on the shore and struck one of the dunnage piles, and killed him. Fortunately, the conflagration broke out whilst the boat was moored at the landing, else there might have been some drowning. George W. Jr. had been the burnt boy was the Alburn, and that the fireman, though severely injured, recovered.

This was news from Kentucky obtained way out in Colorado. Another

pleasing sequence will be omitted.

The Hon. Jefferson Monroe Levy inherited Monticello, and is still its possessor. There he at times dispenses liberal hospitality and welcomes patriotic pilgrimages. His domicile, however, is in New York City, and he was once a Democratic member of Congress from the Thirtieth District of New York. He takes an interest in the affairs of Albemarle county, and makes it practical by offering prizes in some of the public contests in which its people and their neighbors engage. He is as patriotic as his father was, and is a member of the Empire State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

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